

Comparisons of Job Characteristics

Focus Occupation: Dental Assistants (31-9091)

Associated Occupation: Dentists, General (29-1021)

[Compare Knowledge](#)

[Compare Skills](#)

[Compare Abilities](#)

[Compare Detailed Work Activities](#)

[Compare Tools and Technologies](#)

<<	Focus occupation element is much lower
<	Focus occupation element is lower
0	Focus occupation element is at a similar level
>	Focus occupation element is at a higher level
>>	Focus occupation element is at a much higher level

Knowledge

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 80

Focus Occupation: Dental Assistants (31-9091)

Associated Occupation: Dentists, General (29-1021)

Associated Occupation's Key Knowledge Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating	Evaluation of Focus Occupation	
Medicine and Dentistry	3.7	22.7	15.5	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Customer and Personal Service	11.3	20.5	15.9	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Biology	3.7	17.4	3.5	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Psychology	6.4	15.8	7.7	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Chemistry	4.8	12.7	4.9	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Administration and Management	8.4	12.6	6.6	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required
Personnel and Human Resources	5.6	11.0	3.1	<<	Extensive education and/or training may be required

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Skills

Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 73

Focus Occupation: Dental Assistants (31-9091)

Associated Occupation: Dentists, General (29-1021)

Associated Occupation's Key Skills Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating	Evaluation of Focus Occupation	
Critical Thinking	10.8	15.9	9.0	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Judgment and Decision Making	9.4	14.6	7.3	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required

Active Learning	8.7	13.6	6.9	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Monitoring	9.9	13.6	8.2	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Complex Problem Solving	9.1	13.0	6.9	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Coordination	9.1	12.8	8.2	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Science	4.5	12.3	5.1	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Service Orientation	7.9	12.2	9.3	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Time Management	8.9	12.2	7.4	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Persuasion	7.4	11.2	6.7	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Management of Personnel Resources	6.9	10.8	5.2	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Management of Financial Resources	3.3	8.8	1.8	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required
Management of Material Resources	3.7	8.4	3.3	<<	Extensive development of skills in this area may be required

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Abilities		Similarity of Focus Occupation to Associated Occupation: 86			
Focus Occupation: Dental Assistants (31-9091) Associated Occupation: Dentists, General (29-1021)					
Associated Occupation's Key Abilities Elements	Average Rating, All Occupations	Associated Occupation's Rating	Focus Occupation's Rating	Evaluation of Focus Occupation	
Control Precision	6.6	19.2	9.0	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Inductive Reasoning	10.2	18.8	8.5	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Problem Sensitivity	11.1	17.6	9.0	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Near Vision	11.1	17.5	10.6	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Finger Dexterity	7.6	16.9	9.6	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Deductive Reasoning	10.6	16.5	8.5	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Arm-Hand Steadiness	6.8	15.7	10.2	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Information Ordering	9.9	14.1	8.5	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required
Selective Attention	8.7	12.7	8.5	<<	Extensive improvement in abilities may be required

The maximum possible rating is 25.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Activities that Both Occupations Have in Common

Similarity of Focus
Occupation to Associated
Occupation: 86

Focus Occupation: Dental Assistants (31-9091)
Associated Occupation: Dentists, General (29-1021)

Work Activities	Exclusivity of Activity
Follow dental or medical x-ray procedures	81
Follow patient care procedures	60
Observe patient condition	48
Operate dental equipment	89
Perform dental hygiene procedures	95
Use dental treatment procedures	87
Use knowledge of medical terminology	40

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily perform all of the listed activities. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the activity is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations engage in that activity.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.

Tools and Technologies that Both Occupations Have in Common

Similarity of Focus
Occupation to Associated
Occupation: 88

Focus Occupation: Dental Assistants (31-9091)
Associated Occupation: Dentists, General (29-1021)

Tools and Technologies	Exclusivity
Autoclave and sterilizer equipment and accessories	12
Blood pressure units and related products	11
Compressors	9
Computers	1
Content authoring and editing software	1
Cosmetic dentistry equipment and supplies	56
Dental and subspecialty instruments and devices	37
Dental clinical furniture	80
Dental fillers and finishing and polishing supplies	47
Dental hygiene and preventive care equipment and supplies	70
Dental imaging equipment and supplies	47
Dental impression and forming equipment and supplies	56
Dental laboratory and sterilization equipment and supplies	62
Dental lasers and illumination and fiber optic equipment and supplies	62
Dental materials	70
Dental operator specific supplies	80
Finance accounting and enterprise resource planning ERP software	2
General dental supplies	70
Industry specific software	1
Medical radiological shielding and protection products	31
Network applications software	1

Orthodontic and prosthodontic equipment and supplies	62
Oxygen therapy delivery systems and devices	13
Periodontal equipment and supplies	62
Presterilization cleaning equipment and solutions	24
Surgical equipment and accessories and related products	23

Not all positions in these occupations will necessarily use all of the listed tools and technologies. The exclusivity rating is an indication of how unique the tool or technology is amongst all occupations. The maximum rating is 100. High scores indicate that only a small number of occupations use that tool or technology.

Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section analysis of O*NET (Occupation Information Network) data.